

PREPAREDNESS

Questions from the worksheet on preparedness varied from those asked on other topics.

Which objectives are most important to you and your community and why?

- *All Hazards*: As in other communities, participants pointed out that “all hazards” encompasses all other areas.

If public health trade-offs were necessary due to scarce resources, what personal and community values would you see as most important in making these trade-offs?

- *Emphasize Threats*: Participants stressed that communications to members of the community should emphasize the threats to people and business, homes, etc. and what individuals and local institutions can do. They should not only talk about what the government is doing.

From whom and how do you want to hear about public health issues, before/during/after a disaster?

- *CDC is a Credible Source*: CDC is viewed as a credible source of information in all phases of disasters.

What are your expectations of CDC before/during/after a disaster?

- The groups discussed the types of things CDC should be doing in the six “investment areas”, but did not address “expectations” so the information was not reported.

General Comments:

- *Role of school nurses*: A school nurse pointed out the extremely important role school nurses play in screening, health education, and managing chronic conditions, and asked for attention to the role of school nurses as first responders in disasters.